

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 11, 2003      LB 16, 258, 299, 326, 588, 619

to General File; LB 299 indefinitely postponed; LB 326 indefinitely postponed; LB 588 indefinitely postponed. Business and Labor, LB 16 to General File. And Banking, LB 258 to General File with amendments. That's all that I had, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 788-804.)

SPEAKER BROMM PRESIDING

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Before we go to the next agenda item, we do have one among us who has reached, I think, a milestone, a birthday, I believe it is. And the first number, I believe, is a six. And I think we want to recognize Senator Raikes on his birthday. Senator Raikes. (Applause) And I'm also supposed to announce that there are no treats or anything like that. (Laugh) Mr. Clerk, next agenda item.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 619.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I come here today to present LB 619. And this has been my priority bill this year. And it come out of committee 8 to 0, and had the hearing on February 6. And anyway, I need to give you just a little bit of background on why this bill come about, and just what it's all about. And we didn't think we'd be dealing with anything on water issues this year, because the water task force was meeting, and they're going to bring back their report in December, and we might have something next year on it. But anyway, I passed out a map. And I wanted to kind of give you an idea of where the Ogallala Aquifer lays, because that's what my bill is kind of dealing with. And I was called by the NRDs, the Upper Loup River...Upper Loup Valley NRD, to a meeting in Hyannis on December 26. And there was about 125 people showed up there. They said they had someone that wanted to drill three wells in Grant County and ship the water out by rail, and they wanted to pump 1,800 gallon a minute to ship it out. But anyway, they wanted to drill the wells on the railroad right of way, which I didn't know for sure whether they could do it or not. But one thing we got to think about this, you know, every gallon of water that's shipped out will be one less gallon that